

### IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a composition, comprising the steps of  
~~characterized in that it comprises the steps consisting:~~
  - a) ~~in~~-reducing mother-of-pearl to a powder with a particle size of between approximately 1 and approximately 300  $\mu\text{m}$ ;
  - b) ~~in~~-bringing the mother-of-pearl powder thus obtained into ~~close~~-contact with an extracting agent in the form of an aqueous-glycolic solution ~~of at least one collagen, or of at least one proteoglycan or of a mixture thereof; and then~~
  - c) ~~in~~-recovering the extraction mixture formed as a result of the bringing into ~~close~~ contact, ~~constituting the desired composition.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the mother-of- pearl is reduced to a powder with a particle size of between approximately 50 and approximately 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .
3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the mother-of- pearl is reduced to a powder with a particle size of between approximately 15 and approximately 50  $\mu\text{m}$ ,
4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the aqueous -glycolic solution ~~solvent~~ of the extracting agent has a water:glycol weight ratio of ~~between~~ approximately 1:100 ~~and approximately 100:1.~~
5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the extracting agent is an aqueous -glycolic solution of at least one collagen.
6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the collagen is a marine collagen.

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7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein ~~any one of claims 5 to 7, characterized in that~~ the collagen concentration is between approximately 0.0001 and approximately 50% by weight, relative to the total weight of the extracting agent.
9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the extracting agent is an aqueous -glycolic solution of at least one proteoglycan.
10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the proteoglycan is chosen from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, heparan sulfate, keratan sulfate and mixtures thereof.
11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein ~~or 10, characterized in that~~ the extracting agent is an aqueous-glycolic solution of hyaluronic acid.
12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein ~~any one of claims 9 to 11, characterized in that~~ the proteoglycan concentration is preferably between approximately 0.0001 and approximately 40% by weight, relative to the total weight of the extracting agent.
13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the mother-of-pearl powder is brought into close contact with the extracting agent according to step b) by preparing a mixture, including ~~consisting of~~ the mother-of-pearl powder and the extracting agent, such that it comprises, relative to its total weight, approximately ~~20-~~ 20% to approximately 60% by weight of mother-of-pearl powder obtained in step a) and the remainder as extracting agent.
14. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the close contact in step b) is brought about, for a

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given temperature, for a period of time sufficient to produce a substantially ~~virtually~~ complete extraction.

15. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~, at the end of step b), the extraction mixture, formed as a result of the bringing into contact, ~~close contact, which constitutes the desired composition~~, is recovered and a ~~the~~ liquid phase of the composition is separated from a ~~the~~ solid phase.
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Currently Amended) A composition ~~which can be obtained using the method as claimed in claim 1~~ any one of the preceding claims.
19. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that it comprises at least~~, comprising in the form of an aqueous-glycolic suspension:
  - aragonite ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ );
  - trace elements chosen from the group consisting of sodium, magnesium, lanthanum, zinc, bromine, cesium, iron, manganese, chlorine, copper, potassium, calcium, strontium, sulfur and mixtures thereof;
  - fibrous proteins from mother-of-pearl;
  - nonfibrous proteins from mother-of-pearl; and
  - at least one collagen not derived from mother of-pearl and/or at least one proteoglycan not derived from mother-of-pearl.
20. (Currently Amended) The composition as claimed in claim 18, comprising ~~or 19~~, ~~characterized in that it comprises at least one~~ marine collagen not derived from mother-of-pearl and at least one proteoglycan not derived from mother-of-pearl chosen from the group consisting of hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate, dermatan sulfate, heparan sulfate, keratan sulfate and mixtures thereof.

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21. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising ~~characterized in that it comprises the composition as claimed in claim 18, any one of claims 18 to 20,~~ as active principle, and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
22. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein ~~characterized in that the pharmaceutically acceptable excipient is an excipient suitable for dermatological application.~~
23. (Currently Amended) A therapeutic method intended for the treatment of tissue regeneration disorders of the skin and/or superficial body growths, comprising the step of applying to the skin and/or superficial body growths a composition as claimed in claim 18 ~~any one of claims 18 to 20.~~
24. (Withdrawn) A therapeutic method intended for the treatment of disorders of the skin and/or superficial body growths related to aging comprising the step applying to the skin and/or to superficial body growths a composition as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 20.
25. (Withdrawn) A therapeutic method intended for the treatment of inflammatory skin manifestations comprising the step of applying to the skin and/or superficial body growths a composition as claimed in any one of claims 18 to 20.
26. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic composition, comprising ~~characterized in that it comprises the composition as claimed in claim 18, any one of claims 18 to 20,~~ as cosmetically active principle, and a cosmetically acceptable excipient.
27. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic method intended for cosmetic treatment for tissue regeneration of the skin and/or superficial body growths comprising the step of applying to the skin and/or to superficial body growths a composition as claimed in claim 18 ~~any one of claims 18 to 20.~~

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28. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic method intended for the cosmetic treatment of modifications related to aging of the skin and/or superficial body growths comprising the step of applying to the skin and/or to superficial body growths a composition as claimed in claim 18 ~~any one of claims 18 to 20~~.
29. (Previously Canceled)
30. (Previously Canceled)
31. (New) A method for preparing a composition, comprising the steps of:
- a) reducing mother-of-pearl to a powder with a particle size of between approximately 1 and approximately 300  $\mu\text{m}$ ;
  - b) bringing the mother-of-pearl powder thus obtained into contact with an extracting agent in the form of an aqueous-glycolic solution of at least one of a collagen and a proteoglycan; and
  - c) recovering the extraction mixture formed as a result of the bringing into contact.
32. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the aqueous -glycolic solvent of the extracting agent has a water:glycol weight ratio of approximately 100:1.

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